

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Hideyo Osanai et al. Confirmation No.:

Serial No. :

Filed :

TC/A.U. :

Examiner :

Docket No. : 03-745

Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits the documents listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed.

(1) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2002-76551 (published on March 15, 2002). The abstract is attached hereto.

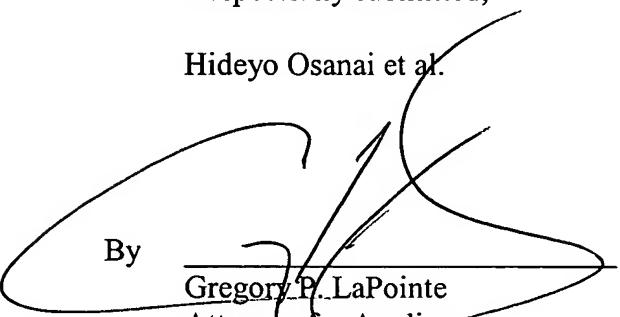
The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to

the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

Hideyo Osanai et al.

By


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Date: December 29, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on December 29, 2003.



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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	
		Filing Date	
		First Named Inventor	Hideyo Osanai et al.
		Group Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	03-745

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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